Park Ranger Programs

Discover Grand Canyon with Park Rangers and Volunteers Who Know It Inside and Out

All outdoor programs may be cancelled in inclement weather or when lightning danger is present. Programs are wheelchair accessible with assistance.		companied by ar Program reserva ails may be icy f	ations are not	required.
Village and Mather Point Area	LOCATION	TIME	DURATION	FREQUENCY
Cedar Ridge Hike				
Join a park ranger to discover the beauty of the inner canyon on this arduous hike descending 1,140 feet (347 m) on the unpaved South Kaibab Trail. This strenuous, 3-mile (5 km), round-trip hike is not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking. Sturdy footwear and 2 quarts/liters of water per person required. Layered clothing, hat, sunscreen, and snacks strongly recommended. Trailhead is closed to private vehicles. Ride the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle from Grand Canyon Visitor Center to trailhead.		8:00 am	3–4 hours	Daily beginning April 1
Rim Walk				
Come explore some of the many wonders that Grand Canyon offers. From geology to history to ecology, the stories and views are endless. Join a park ranger on this leisurely walk along the rim. Topics vary daily. Ride the free Village Route shuttle to the Train Depot stop. Parking in the nearby lot may be limited.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	9:30 am	45–60 minutes	Daily through March 31
Geology Walk				
Grand Canyon is one of the greatest geologic features on earth. Why is it so deep, wide, and grand? Why does it exist only here in the world? Join a park ranger on a walk along the rim to discover this amazing geologic story. Ride the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle to the Yavapai Geology Museum or park in the nearby parking area.		10:00 am	45–60 minutes	Daily
Mather Point Talk 🗲 🔥				
Join a park ranger at this rim-side amphitheater for a short program to discover some of the many treasures of Grand Canyon. Topics vary daily. Great for Junior Rangers! Ride the free Village Route shuttle bus to Grand Canyon Visitor Center. Parking is available in lots 1 through 4.	Mather Point Amphitheater	11:00 am	20–30 minutes	Daily
Porch Talk				
Relax on the porch of historic Verkamp's Visitor Center with a park ranger for this short program to discover some of the many jewels of the canyon. Topics vary daily. Perfect for Junior Rangers and train passengers. Ride the free Village Route shuttle to the Train Depot. Parking in the nearby lot may be limited.	Verkamp's Visitor Center	2:00 pm	15–20 minutes	Daily
Condor Talk 🗲 🔥				
Learn about the majestic and endangered California condor and its reintroduction to northern Arizona in a talk along the canyon's rim. Ride the free Village Route shuttle to the Bright Angel Lodge stop. Parking may be limit		r 3:00 pm	30–45 minutes	Daily
Geo-Glimpse 🔥				
Wondering how Grand Canyon formed? Enjoy this short introductory talk and learn about the geology of Grar Canyon while you explore Yavapai Geology Museum. Plan to arrive on the free Kaibab/Rim Route shuttle bus; parking may be available nearby. Consider walking along the Trail of Time following the program.		3:30 pm	15–20 minutes	Daily
Evening Program 🔥				
A perfect way to end your day at Grand Canyon! From the warmth of this beautiful auditorium, enjoy a park ranger presentation on Grand Canyon's fascinating natural or cultural history. Check the schedule posted at National Park Service visitor centers for topics. Arrive by walking, driving, or riding the free Village Route shutt	Shrine of the Ages	7:30 pm	1 hour	Daily no program May 16
Special Programs				
As staffing allows and weather permits, special programs may be offered, including nature and fossil walks, startalks, and moon and graveyard walks. Check at National Park Service visitor centers for times and locations.	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies

	<i>The Guide</i> March 1 to May 23, 2012			
Desert View Area	LOCATION	TIME	DURATION	FREQUENCY
A Journey Through Time 🗲 🔥				
Have you ever wondered what life was like at Grand Canyon 800 years ago? How did people find food, water, and shelter? Join a park ranger to explore the remains of an ancestral Puebloan village. Envision a thriving community in this harsh and demanding environment. Program includes a walk along a 0.1-mile (0.2 km) flat, paved trail.	Tusayan Museum 3 miles (4.8 km) west of Desert View	11:00 am & 1:30 pm	30–45 minutes	Daily
Cultural Connections 🗲 🔥				
People have called the canyon home for thousands of years. Bring your imagination and learn about one aspect of their rich cultural legacy.	Tusayan Museum 3 miles (4.8 km) west of Desert View	3:30 pm	20 minutes	Daily beginning April 8
Roving Rangers				
Explore Desert View Drive and perhaps, encounter a park ranger at an overlook. Discover and enjoy a variety of unique aspects of Grand Canyon, such as human history, wildlife, and the environment.	Viewpoints along Desert View Drive	Varies	Varies	Daily

Inside the Canyon

Have you spent the day hiking and now want to know more about this amazing place? Join a park ranger to discover the many wonders of Indian Garden and Phantom Ranch. Topics vary and cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. These programs begin March 9 and are offered in Grand Canyon's backcountry. You must hike to Indian Garden and hike or ride a mule to Phantom Ranch.

Indian Garden				
Park rangers present programs at the amphitheater just north of the Indian Garden Campground. Check the bulletin board in the campground for times and topics. Park rangers also post information on additional programs as scheduling permits. Accessible only by hiking 4.5 miles (7.2 km) down the Bright Angel Trail.	Indian Garden	As Posted	Varies	Friday to Monday
Phantom Ranch				
Check the Bright Angel Campground bulletin board, the ranger station, or the Phantom Ranch Canteen for program locations and subjects. Junior Ranger activity booklet also available. Accessible only by hiking or a mule ride to the bottom of Grand Canyon.	Phantom Ranch	As Posted	Varies	Daily

Make the Most of Your Visit

Use Caution Near the Edge

- Stay at least 6 feet (2 m) from the edge and hold on to children.
- Keep aware of your surroundings.
 Do not back up without first looking
 where you are going.
- Never throw anything over the edge. Hikers and bighorn sheep may be just below and can be seriously injured.

Drive Safely

 Snow and ice may linger on spring roads. This presents special driving conditions and can temporarily close park roads. Check at National Park Service visitor centers or call (928) 638-7888 for road conditions in the park.

Weather and Elevation

- Spring weather varies greatly and can change suddenly as storms move into the area. Wear layered clothing and be prepared for changing conditions.
- Direct sun can cause dehydration and sunburn. Drink water and use sunscreen.
- At 7,000 feet (2,135 m) elevation you may feel short of breath, nauseous, or tire easily. Drink water and take it easy.

Keep Wildlife Wild

Please do your part to keep the park's wildlife wild.

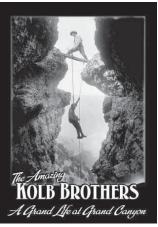
- Never approach or feed any animal; it is illegal to do so.
- Deer and elk can be aggressive, especially during the fall rut and spring calving season.
- Stay at least 100 feet (30.5 m), or about six car lengths, away from larger animals.
- Do not feed the squirrels; they will bite and can carry plague. People can get plague from being bitten by an inflected flea or by handling an infected animal.
- It is tempting to want to get close to animals, but remember they are not pets. Wild animals need space and respect.



Unique Opportunities

Enjoy Special Events Celebrating Grand Canyon's Rich Legacy

Special Events



The Amazing Kolb Brothers: A Grand Life at Grand Canyon

Through September 4 Open Daily 8:00 am-7:00 pm

Kolb Studio exhibits inspire a sense of wonder for visitors from around the world. This year Kolb Studio will showcase the legacy of Emery and Ellsworth Kolb for the first time. This exhibit coincides with the 100th anniversary of their famous river trip and with Arizona's statehood centennial.

Come see Grand Canyon through the eyes of the Kolb brothers. Be amazed and inspired by their stories, learn about their adventures on the Colorado River, and view the movie that still remains a true box office hit—showing for more than 60 years in the Kolb Studio gallery.

This exhibit is presented by the Grand Canyon Association, Cline Library, and Grand Canyon National Park. Additional funding is provided by Babbitt Foundation, Pink Jeep Tours of Las Vegas and Sedona, and Ms. Penny Schultz.



Artist-in-Residence

Grand Canyon hosts two Artist-in-Residence programs—a seasonal program on the North Rim and a year-round program on the South Rim. Ask in National Park Service visitor centers about times and locations for free, family-friendly programs with the artists. Visit go.nps.gov/tzqeq3

March 17, 7:30 pm Shrine of the Ages

Pete Fromm, award-winning writer from Missoula, Montana, will read from his outdoor-inspired fiction.

March 24, 7:30 pm Shrine of the Ages

Shonto Begay, renowned painter from Flagstaff, Arizona, will discuss the influence of Navajo culture on his contemporary art as part of Archaeology Day.

April 8–30

Jing Zhou, new media, digital artist, and designer from Ocean City, New Jersey, will present a hands-on workshop where participants will create origami sculptures of regional animals.

May 1-29

Deborah Bird, ice and paper sculptor from Leicester, United Kingdom, will present a hands-on demonstration and work with local school children.

Archaeology Day March 24

People have lived in and around Grand Canyon for thousands of years, learning to sustain themselves in a challenging environment. Come connect the past to the present and explore activities suitable for all ages. Check at National Park Service visitor centers for information.

Green Fire April 21, 7:30 pm Grand Canyon Visitor Center

Begin your Earth Day celebrations the evening before with this documentary about how Aldo Leopold influenced the environmental movement.

Earth Day April 22,10:00 am-2:00 pm Grand Canyon Visitor Center

Join Grand Čanyon National Park, Grand Canyon Association, concessioners, regional cities, nonprofits, and agencies for the largest Earth Day celebration in park history. Stop by Grand Canyon Visitor Center for this special event with unique activities and interactive exhibits.

National Junior Ranger Day April 28

Hey kids! Attend a park ranger program and receive special recognition as part of this national event. Look for signs at National Park Service visitor centers.

Throughout the year, children ages four and older can pick up a free Junior Ranger book from any visitor center. Have fun learning about Grand Canyon, complete activities, attend a park ranger program, and earn a badge and certificate.

Junior Ranger programs are also available at Phantom Ranch, North Rim (summer only), and more than 250 national parks, seashores, and monuments nationwide. This program is generously supported by the Grand Canyon Association.



Endangered Species Day May 18

Celebrate Wildlife Day May 19

Grand Canyon protects one of the most diverse habitats in the world. Come learn about the animals and endangered species that live in this special place. Check at National Park Service visitor centers for program information.

Annular Solar Eclipse and Star Party May 20

Only two-thirds of the western United States will see this partial eclipse. Visitors to Grand Canyon will be fortunate enough to see the moon pass in front of the sun, leaving only a ring of sun visible. Join celestial enthusiasts for this special viewing starting at 5:28 pm and stay until after the sun goes down to view the amazing dark skies above Grand Canyon. Check National Park Service visitor centers for specific information. Remember it is dangerous to look directly into the sun!